

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 03486

EXDIS

FOR IO/ASST SECY MAYNES FROM AMB MCHENRY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, UNGA, RQ
SUBJECT: TACTICS ON PUERTO RICO IN COMMITTEE OF 24
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1. IN PARA 4 BELOW IS TEXT OF DRAFT CONSENSUS
RESOLUTION WE PLAN TO GIVE TO AUSTRALIANS
AND INDIANS (AND POSSIBLY SWEDES) EARLY SEPT 7
IN ORDER THAT THEY KNOW HOW FAR WE CAN GO IN SEEKING
CONSENSUS. WE HAVE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION
TO ALTERNATIVE WORDING TO PREAMBULAR PARA 4 ("BEARING
IN MIND") THAT HAS BEEN SUGGESTED IN DEPT TELECONS BUT
ARE CONVINCED THAT IN ORDER TO WIN SUFFICIENT SUPPORT
WE MUST NOW SHOW A WILLINGNESS TO GO AS FAR
AS THIS TEXT. SUGGESTED REFERENCE TO PARA 9 OF GA
RES 748 WOULD IN OUR VIEW NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THOSE
WE MUST CONVINCE AND WOULD LEAD THEM TO QUESTION THE
GENUINENESS OF OUR INTEREST IN ACHIEVING CONSENSUS.

2. WITH REF TO OPERATIVE PARA 2, TEXT BELOW IS
ALTERNATIVE 2 PREVIOUSLY DATAFAXED TO DEPT. PREFERRED
ALTERNATIVE IS WORDING ALREADY PROVIDED TO JAIPAL
AT EARLIER STAGE AND IF HE CAN OBTAIN AGREEMENT ON IT
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HE WILL NOT HAVE TO USE THIS WORDING. HOWEVER, WE
CONSIDER IT ESSENTIAL THAT HE BE AWARE NOW THAT WE
COULD ACCEPT THIS VERSION.

3. IN GENERAL IT SEEMS TO US THAT TACTICAL SITUATIONS
CAN BE BEST JUDGED ON THE SCENE, WHERE ATMOSPHERICS
ARE A PART OF THE PICTURE AND IT IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE

A GENERAL "FEEL" FOR THE SITUATION THAT IS DIFFICULT TO CONVEY FULLY IN WRITTEN OR ORAL REPORTS. WE WOULD HOPE, THEREFORE, THAT DEPT WOULD FIND IT POSSIBLE IN GENERAL TO ACCEPT MISSION'S JUDGEMENTS ON TACTICAL QUESTIONS SUCH AS ARE INVOLVED HERE.

4. BEGIN TEXT OF DRAFT CONSENSUS RES.
THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

RECALLING ITS RESOLUTIONS OF 28 AUGUST 1972 AND 30 AUGUST 1973, AS WELL AS ITS DECISION OF 7 SEPTEMBER 1976,

CONSCIOUS OF THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO MODIFY ITS PRESENT STATUS,

HAVING HEARD THE STATEMENTS OF THE PETITIONERS, WHICH HAVE REFLECTED THE VIEWS OF ALL MAJOR TRENDS OF POLITICAL OPINION IN PUERTO RICO,

BEARING IN MIND THAT THESE STATEMENTS HAVE SHOWN A VIRTUALLY UNANIMOUS DISSATISFACTION WITH THE PRESENT STATUS OF PUERTO RICO OR ASPECTS OF IT,

NOTING THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNOR OF PUERTO RICO TO CALL A POLITICAL STATUS REFERENDUM FOLLOWING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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1980 GENERAL ELECTIONS AND THE COMMITMENT BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT WHATEVER DECISION OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO RESULTS FROM SUCH A (THAT) REFERENDUM,

NOTING FURTHER THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS SUPPORT FOR AN INVITATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS OR OTHER APPROPRIATE INTERNATIONAL BODY TO OBSERVE SUCH A (THAT) REFERENDUM,

1. REAFFIRMS THE INALIENABLE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE OF PUERTO RICO TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS 1514 (XV) AND 1541 (XV);

2. DECIDES TO KEEP THE QUESTION OF PUERTO RICO UNDER REVIEW AND REQUESTS ITS RAPPORTEUR, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE SECRETARIAT, TO UPDATE INFORMATION ON THIS QUESTION TO FACILITATE ITS CONSIDERATION OF APPROPRIATE FOLLOW-UP STEPS. END TEXT YOUNG

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